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### *President's Message*

The one event that most members look forward to each year is just around the corner and I think everyone knows it is the annual CAWMC breakfast and auction meeting that takes place during the RCNA Annual Convention. Every member I chat with is looking forward to attending the meeting and catching up after a two year hiatus due to the pandemic. This year it is scheduled on Saturday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8:00 am in the Joliet Room. It is a buffet style breakfast, and the cost is \$30 per member. You can register for the CAWMC Breakfast on the RCNA website or fill out the registration form that is printed in the March-April issue of the RCNA's Canadian Numismatic Journal. Please register, that way the hotel has an accurate number for the number of breakfasts required for the meeting. It is still not too late to consign some items for the auction. Please notify Al Munro, our Auctioneer or me if you have any material to be auctioned off.

The Convention is scheduled from July 20<sup>th</sup> to July 24<sup>th</sup> at the Ottawa City Centre Hotel, located on 101 Lyon Street North, Ottawa. It is the same hotel that held the RCNA Convention in 2016.

Lisa and I are looking forward to catching up with everyone at the Convention and enjoying some fellowship that we have all missed the past two years!

Cheers, James

## Featured Wood of the Month

### "The Jewel of the Pile"



In our Timber Talk newsletter of July 2006, our long-time CAWMC member and former President, Lou Vesh, wrote his customary article 'My Wooden Nickel's Worth'. In that article, he wrote about this novelty wood, that he had made, and about his thought inspiration behind its making. He briefly described the very complicated and time-consuming process:

*" (...) I purchased the "jewels from a craft store (...) They are of course, only acrylic, yet realistic enough to be effective. They are set in a shallow drilled hole and glued to hold them fast. The "bump", or protruding portion of the jewel, should be protected since it is only plastic and will probably damage easily.*

*It was not an easy project. Starting with a blank wood each nickel required a total of 12 steps to complete, including stamping without foil, stamping with foil, careful alignment, hand painting, as well as the drilling and gluing. With an end product quantity of 200 the total operations for the issue is 2,400. This has to be bordering of insanity!"*

Lou indicated that his inspiration for making the wood came from the 1985 film 'Romancing The Stone' and its 1986 sequel film 'The Jewel Of The Nile'. He just changed the word 'Nile' to 'Pile'.

Lou had actually completed making this wood well before he wrote that article for Timber Talk in 2006. It, however, stayed in storage until he decided to distribute it, to those in attendance at the C.N.A. convention in Niagara Falls of that year. Some of our members who attended that convention may already have this lovely wood, in their collection, but many will not.

The special wood is a 38 mm wood and is found in our catalogue under West Guilford, Ont. as number 5944 - 125.

### **Ross**

From the editor: Lou also wrote that the woods "were not issued (at the time of completion) because he deemed them to be too bizarre to be acceptable". Aren't we lucky that he changed his mind?

## *Chips from the Woodpile .... By Dave Gillespie*

Queen Elizabeth II has now celebrated her 70<sup>th</sup> year on the British throne. The Harris Family from Gatineau, Quebec had a wood made in 1977 (45 years earlier) to honour the Queen on her Silver Jubilee. As the story goes, Howard Harris was in Ottawa on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 1977 in the front of the line of many spectators to watch the Royal couple as they approached City Hall. Howard reached out with one of these woods (catalogue # 4175-003), the Prince walked over and accepted the token, shook his hand and had a short chat in front of photographers, T.V. and camera crews. Howard later received a very nice thank you letter from Prince Phillip.

Did you know that the first Canadian wooden tokens were used by the Hudson Bay Company, in their many northern outposts in trade for furs with the Indians and exchanged for produce and other items?



In 1880 the Dominion Exhibition was held in Montreal and a 'Black Walnut' was made by Leroux using the same die as his medals and issued. It was suggested that only 30 were made but seasoned collectors of both woods and medals will suggest more.

The Halifax Coin Club issued several broomstick woods in 1965 and 1966 with a Perky Bird on the obverse. It is actually a gregarious, fish eating Pelican that is said to hold more in its bill than its belly.

Back in the early 1960's Pat Paterson from North Bay, Ontario issued several woods promoting his business as a service sales agent for Sorel Steel Dominion Wire Rope. Some of the issues included the letters - Y.C.D.B.S.O.Y.A. and if you haven't been told what the acronym is, it represents: "You can't do business sitting on your ass". I wonder if he would still be using it now that we are in the computer age with high technology and fibre optics?

Ross Kingdon reached out to the members through the newsletter with a picture of token from around 1972 showing an Indian on the obverse and Balali's & Son Car Wash on the reverse - 'Good for 50 cents off -1 per wash'. Did anyone reply with information regarding the issue? Was Norm Belsten able to list it in the catalogue?

It seems like the last 25 years has just flown by when we look back and see that in 1997, Lou Vesh created and unveiled a series of woods entitled 'Birds of My

Garden'. These woods were hot-stamped and hand painted to perfection and all of the sales proceeds were generously donated to C.A.W.M.C. This series of woods is much sought after and worth adding to your collection should they become available at auction.

**Quiz Time** - What Canadian wood, issued back in 1961 was handed out to customers with each car wash and redeemable at a rate of 6 to 1 for a grease job?

*Til next time ..... Let the Chips lie where they fall. Dave Gillespie*

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## **Attention All Wooden Nickel Collectors!**

James, our president, has ordered a die commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the "New" 5 cents coin, called affectionally "Nickel".

James is donating 100 commemorative woods to CAWMC, for distribution to our members.

The use of this die is graciously offered free of charge to our members wishing to commemorate the anniversary while using their own personalized dies.

Please contact James for more details. His email address is [jawilliston@shaw.ca](mailto:jawilliston@shaw.ca). You can also phone him at 1-403-461-2663



## Beacon Ford Wooden Nickel

By Barry Uman, F.C.R.N.R.S., F.R.C.N.A.



*Beacon Ford* was the successor to *Coopers Garage Limited* which was originally located on Metropolitan Blvd. in *Ste. Anne de Bellevue*, Quebec. *Charlie Cooper* was the founder and he lived in *Ste. Anne de Bellevue* until he moved to *Baie D'Urfe* in 1948. He operated a Ford franchise under *Cooper's Garage* but when the business

was expanding in the 1960's, he was forced to move because of the construction of the highway where he was located. He moved to 300 Surrey Drive in *Baie D'Urfe* in October 1965. He was now located behind *MacDonald College* [part of *McGill University*] between the railway tracks [C.P.R. /C.N.R.] and the Metropolitan Boulevard [Highway #20].

The name of his business was changed in the late 1960's to *Beacon Ford* and he sold both cars and trucks. This was the first commercial building in *Baie D'Urfe*, and the president was *John Bourker*. Unfortunately, because of declining sales and competition from the new Japanese cars, *Beacon Ford* was forced to close in 1982. This valuable property was purchased by the town of *Baie D'Urfe* in 1984 for \$275,000. After its renovation in 1985, it was used as a public works building and a fire station.

This rare wood is listed in *Canadian Wooden Money* by *Norm Belsten* under *Baie D'Urfe*, Quebec as no. 4100-001. It is 38mm with blue colors and is made in the U.S.A. The quantity made is unknown, but it was probably a few hundred woods. On the obverse, the Indian head faces right while on the reverse side there is a small bee above the name *Beacon*. The name *Beacon* is an abbreviation of the city of *Beaconsfield* which borders *Baie D'Urfe* on the east side while *Ste. Anne de Bellevue* borders on the west side.

### Source Material:

*Baie D'Urfe – then and now* by *Edward Maxwell*

*A History of the Town of Baie D'Urfe* by *Thomas R. Lee*





## COAT OF ARMS OF THE CITY OF MONTREAL" TOKEN

This token was created by Graphx-Quebec for les Apprentis Numismates and given as promotional material at the Salon Nuphilex, in Montreal QC in 2021.

Inspired by the reverse of the tokens of the Province of Canada, the token shows the period coat of arms of the City of Montreal (on the 1842 Montreal Bank one penny) surrounded by legends referring to the Salon. The token retains a common obverse with other woods issued by les Apprentis Numismates, the mascot Nic le Fouineur (Nic the Curious). The token measures 35mm.

One hundred tokens were produced and given to attendees. The few remaining tokens are offered for \$3, including postage. Write to [info@graphx-quebec.com](mailto:info@graphx-quebec.com) to order.



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*Collect them all! One 200-250 words article each! Send your articles to [france@waychison.com](mailto:france@waychison.com)*

## *Ontario Numismatic Association's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Woods, Errors and All*

Sean Sinclair, president of the Ontario Numismatic Association (ONA), designed and produced a series of wooden token commemorating the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Association. There are six shapes per set: round, hexagon (6-sides), dodecagon (12-sides), 8 scallops, 12 scallops, and a curved nonagon (9-sides). The woods measure 40 mm, with the exception of the hexagon, which measures 45 mm (angle to angle). These woods are sold as sets only.

The first 11 sets produced contained an error in date and in the association's motto. There were 66 "good" sets produced afterward.

The 66 good sets have the clear coat of arms on them. The 11 error sets have the grainy coat of arms (taken from an image of a medal).

The woods are laser engraved on 3 mm (1/8 inch) Baltic birch plywood. All sets are available at \$15 each. Postage is \$5.

To order, please send an e-mail to Robb McPherson, treasurer of the ONA, at [treasurer@the-ona.ca](mailto:treasurer@the-ona.ca). Payments via Interac at the same email address are preferred. Alternate arrangements should be discussed with M. McPherson.



Left: the regular commemorative set. Right: the "error" set



## CAWMC BREAKFAST AUCTION

*As mentioned in the President's Message, there will be an Auction at our AGM Breakfast this Year. AND although this auction will be live it will be open for absentee bids. Mail bids must be received by July 15th, before the auctioneer leaves for the convention or by email or telephone by July 22nd. Our auctioneer is Al Munro. Al's email is [wood5cents@shaw.ca](mailto:wood5cents@shaw.ca) and his cell number is 403-830-3724. His home number is 403-273-6133(before July 18th).*

*We are preparing a PowerPoint presentation showing images of all the lots offered by the date the list is published. Any lots received after that date will be live auction only. This presentation will be sent electronically to our members on the Timber Talk email listing prior to our meeting. Details for procedures to make an absentee bid will be included with the list. If you are not on the Timber Talk email list and wish to receive a copy of the images, please email Al at [wood5cents@shaw.ca](mailto:wood5cents@shaw.ca) from an email address that Al can use to email the list.*

### LOTS CAWMC AUCTION TO BE HELD ON JULY 23,2022

LOT	Catalogue #	DESCRIPTION	RESERVE
1	5675-040	Centennial Souvenir	2.00
2	9400-001	Kamloops Key	10.00
3		Calgary Post Souvenir	2.00
4	5900-1979	CNE EX	2.00
5		Lot of 121 Lou Vesh Woods	10.00
6		20 Saskatchewan Woods	10.00
7		20 Alberta Woods	10.00
8		20 Ontario Woods	10.00
9		20 Lou Vesh Woods	5.00
10		20 Lou Vesh Woods	5.00
11		20 Maritimes Woods	10.00
12		20 Maritimes Woods	10.00
13		20 Lou Vesh Woods	5.00
14		20 Lou Vesh Woods	5.00
15		20 British Columbia Woods	10.00
16		20 Alberta Woods	10.00
17		20 Lou Vesh Woods	5.00
18		20 British Columbia Woods	10.00
19		11 Hnatiuk Mother's Day Woods	5.00
20		2 sets of 50 each Trains USA woods	10.00